

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BONN 20586 191838Z

44

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 ACDA-05 TRSE-00 SAJ-01 EB-07

COME-00 OMB-01 /067 W

----- 102475

O R 191739Z DEC 75

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5249

INFO SECDEF WASHDC

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 20586

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MPOL, GW

SUBJECT: PRESS REPORT REGARDING UNFAIR COMPETITION
FOR US ARMY TANK

A GERMAN WIRE SERVICE (DPA) HAS PICKED UP THE DEC. 18
REPORT WRITTEN BY JOHN W. FINNEY IN THE NEW YORK
TIMES RE THE GERMANS BEING UPSET BY THE U.S. ROLE IN
THE TWO-NATION TANK COMPETITION. THE EMBASSY HAS CON-
FIRMED THAT DEFENSE MINISTER LEBER WAS AWARE OF THE
ARTICLE THIS MORNING. ACCORDING TO LEBER'S PERSONAL
ASSISTANT, THE FRG INTENDS TO FOLLOW UP TO DETERMINE
IF THERE IS UNFAIR COMPETITION DISADVANTAGEOUS TO THE
LEOPARD II. WE WERE TOLD THAT IF THE ALLEGATION WERE
CORRECT, IT WOULD ALMOST CERTAINLY COME TO THE ATTEN-
TION OF FRG POLITICAL AUTHORITIES. HOWEVER, THE FRG
DOES NOT INTEND TO PURSUE THE MATTER NOW AT THE POLI-
TICAL LEVEL. RATHER, THE FRG EMBASSY WILL PROBABLY
BE INSTRUCTED TO MAKE APPROPRIATE INQUIRIES IN
WASHINGTON, ALTHOUGH NO INSTRUCTIONS TO THIS EFFECT
HAVE YET BEEN SENT. SHOULD THE ISSUE STILL REMAIN OPEN
NEXT MONTH, WE WOULD NOT BE SURPRISED IF LEBER BROUGHT
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BONN 20586 191838Z

THE MATTER UP WITH SECRETARY RUMSFELD DURING THE NPG

MEETING IN HAMBURG.
HILLENBRAND

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TRADE DISCRIMINATION, PRESS COMMENTS, TANKS (COMBAT VEHICLES), ALLEGATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 19 DEC 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ElyME
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975BONN20586
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750442-0052
From: BONN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751225/aaaaavth.tel
Line Count: 63
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ElyME
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <30 APR 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <22 OCT 2003 by ElyME>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRESS REPORT REGARDING UNFAIR COMPETITION FOR US ARMY TANK
TAGS: MPOL, GE, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006